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Rienow, Leona; Papers

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M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Title:	Leona Train Rienow Papers
ID:	mss025
Date [inclusive]:	1856-1988
Physical Description:	2.78 cubic ft.
Physical Location:	The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection documents Leona Train Rienow's professional career as a writer. The papers contain a significant number of drafts of Leona Train Rienow's manuscripts, papers concerning her research for her books and articles, and correspondence files.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Leona Train Rienow Papers, 1856-1988. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Train Reinow Papers).

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Biographical Sketch

Leona Train Rienow was born in Duluth, Minnesota in 1903, but moved when she was one year old to the mining site of Chisholm, Minnesota. She received a B.A. from the University of Chicago and her Master's from the University of Minnesota. In 1931, she married Robert Rienow while he was attending West Point. She toured Europe in 1948 and Italy in 1953. She also traveled on a tramp freighter around the Mediterranean visiting Cairo, Alexandria, Beirut, and Damascus. Her interests included birds and bird-watching, baking, camping, canoeing, touring, forestry, the environment, politics, photography, roses, cats, prehistory, and the Middle Ages.

Leona Train Rienow authored books, most of which were for children, short stories, and articles. Her books included *The Bewitched Caverns* (1948), *The Dark Pool* (1949), *The Year of the Last Eagle* (1970), and *Unbottled Scotch* (1987). She also co-authored a number of books with her husband including *Our New Life with the Atom* (1959), *Of Snuff, Sin and the Senate* (1965), *The Lonely Quest: the Evolution of Presidential Leadership* (1966), *Moment in the Sun: a Report on the Deteriorating Quality of the American Environment* (1967), *Man Against His Environment* (1970), and *The Great Unwanted Want Us: Illegal Aliens-too late to close the gates?* (1980).

Leona Train Rienow died of a stroke in 1983 at Child's Hospital in Albany, New York. She was eighty years old.

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Scope and Contents

This collection documents Leona Train Rienow's professional career as a writer. The papers contain a significant number of drafts of Leona Train Rienow's manuscripts, papers concerning her research for her books and articles, and correspondence files. Much of the correspondence concerns publishers and editors of various magazines and publishing houses.

Strengths of this collection include the many drafts of manuscripts that document the changes that Leona Train Rienow made to her works over a span of many years. Weaknesses of this collection include a lack of material on Rienow's personal life outside of her professional career as a writer and her environmental activism. There are also many whole newspaper sections, news clippings, and notes written on scraps of paper whose significance is often unclear. Also, this collection does not comprise drafts of all her books and articles.

Preservation concerns include yellowing and/or brittle paper which is often folded and/or wavy, foxing on the edges of some manuscripts, corners or pieces torn out of some pages, and fire damage.

Several collections in the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives provide further information on the environmental and political issues that were of concern to Rienow throughout her life. Of particular note are the collections of her husband Robert Rienow (UA-902.009), Environmental Advocates of New York (APAP-104), Nancy Papish (APAP-144), Environmental Clearinghouse, Inc. (APAP-180), and Vincent J. Schaefer (UA-902.010). For a complete list of related collections see the subject guides for Conservation and the Environment and Literature.

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Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is organized into the following series:

- 1 Series 1 - Typescripts, ca. 1950-1955, Undated
- 2 Series 2 - Research Materials, 1856-1960
- 3 Series 3 - Correspondence, 1946-1988

All series are arranged alphabetically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description

Encoded in EAD by Jasmine C. Mauger 2013

Processing Information

Processed in 2006 by Tim Bridgman.

Access

Access to this record group is unrestricted.

Copyright

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming with the laws of copyright. Whenever possible, the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives will provide information about copyright owners and other restrictions, but the legal determination ultimately rests with the researcher. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the Head of Special Collections and Archives.

Acquisition Information

All items in this manuscript group were donated to the University Libraries, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, in June 1988.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Literature
- Conservation and the Environment
- Women authors
- American fiction--Women authors
- Rienow, Leona Train--Manuscripts
- Minnesota--Chisholm
- Manuscripts (document genre)
- Research (document genres)
- Correspondence
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Rienow, Leona Train

Collection Inventory

Typescripts, ca. 1952-1955Undated

Physical Description: 2 cubic ft.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series consists of drafts of several books, short stories, and articles authored by Leona Train Rienow, many of which are undated. Drafts pertaining to her books include *The Friar's Lantern*; *A Kingdom for Ethelfleda*; *Locusts*; *Mystery of the Midnight Fire*; *Fleda, King Alfred's Daughter*; *Mesaba Plunder*; and *River without Any End*. Drafts of short stories include *Bed and Breakfast*; *Cradle of Humanity*; *Fair on Morrow*; *Gekocht Aardappelen*; *Gory Glory*; *The Great Salt Age*; *Hospitality-Old World Style*; *I Dare You to Sleep in Your Own Guest Room*; *I Dare You to Sleep in Your Own Spare Room*; *It's the British Air!*; *Monuments by God*; *Peasoup and Snails*; *Peeking Gendarmes*; *Professor, Your Goodwill is Showing*; *Screwball Authorities: Our Idolatry of Big Names*; *Tourists Delight*; *You Can't Buck Tradition*; and *We Become Class-Conscious*.

Title/Description

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You Can't Buck Tradition, Undated	Box 2 (1-Typescripts)	Folder 150
Unbottled Scotch, 1987	Box 2 (1-Typescripts)	Folder 151
We Become Class-Conscious, Undated	Box 2 (1-Typescripts)	Folder 152

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Research Materials, 1856-1960

Physical Description: 0.45 cubic ft.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series contains research materials that Leona Train Rienow used for her books, short stories, and articles. There are many whole newspaper sections pertaining to Duluth, Minnesota and mining in Minnesota, as well as Photostats of land records dating from the nineteenth century. There are also magazines and brochures, as well as drawings of floorplans, materials on the history of many towns in England, and interviews of miners, including her father.

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Alfred, Undated	

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Archaeology, 1937-1938	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 2
Arts and Trade, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 3
Atomic Peril, 1960	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 4
Chronology, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 5
Chronology of Reigns, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 6
Churches and Nunneries, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 7
Corrections, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 8
Count, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 9
Countryside, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 10
Customs, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 11
Danes, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 12
Dress and Accoutrements, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 13
Ethelfleda's Parents, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 14
Ethelwulf, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 15
Fleda, Undated		

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Laws, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 20
Lemner Manuscript, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 21
Life in New York-Driftwood, 1932	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 22
Life in 10th Century Britain, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 23
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McCarthy's Beach Project I, 1938-1953	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 28
McCarthy's Beach Project II, 1938-1953	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 29
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Peoples, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 40
Pioneering, 1909-1947	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 41
Politics, ca. 1950	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 42
Popes, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 43
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Prince Valiant, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 45
Resources, Undated		

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Rochester, England, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 48
Sapon Building, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 49
Surveys, 1960	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 50
Tappan, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 51
Winchester, Wessex, Undated	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 52
Youth Organizations, 1948-1949	Box 3 (2- Research Materials)	Folder 53

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Correspondence, 1946-1988

Physical Description: 0.33 cubic ft.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series consists of letters exchanged between Leona Train Rienow and various editors and publishing houses in her search to get her works published. In some cases, there are both Rienow's letters and those of the editor or publisher. In other cases, only the editor's or publisher's letters remain.

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The American Home, 1959	Box 3 (3- Correspondence) Folder 54
Better Homes and Gardens, 1960	Box 3 (3- Correspondence) Folder 55
The Board of Education and Publication of the American Baptist Convention, 1952	Box 3 (3- Correspondence) Folder 56

Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1951-1952	Box 3 (3- Correspondence)	Folder 57
Charles Scribner's Sons, 1963	Box 3 (3- Correspondence)	Folder 58
The Children's Friend, Undated	Box 3 (3- Correspondence)	Folder 59
Children's Play Mate Magazine, Undated	Box 3 (3- Correspondence)	Folder 60
Christian Herald Magazine, 1952	Box 3 (3- Correspondence)	Folder 61
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